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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Rose Sawako Tani of Lombard, who passed away on December 19, 2007; and

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WHEREAS, Sawako Shigeno was born on February 20, 1917 in Florin, California, then a farming community outside of Sacramento; she was the third of six children born to Hikokuma and Koyoshi Shigeno, who had emigrated from Japan between 1906 and 1908; because an English name was required to enroll in public elementary school, an older sister gave her the name, Rose; and

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WHEREAS, In 1940, Rose married Henry Nobuo Tani of San Francisco; soon after the birth of their first son in 1942, the Tani family, along with over 120,000 Japanese-Americans, was incarcerated by the United States government, following the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor; on May 10, 1942, the Tani family was moved temporarily to Tanforan racetrack, south of San Francisco; after permanent internment camps were built around the country, the family was transferred to Topaz Relocation Center in Utah, where they lived for 16 months; in 1944 the Evangelical & Reformed Church offered Rose's husband a job, enabling the family to leave Topaz and move to St. Louis, Missouri; and

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1 WHEREAS, Continued work for the church brought the family
2 in 1951 to Ridley Park, Pennsylvania and in 1964 to Lombard,
3 where Rose settled after her husband's death in 1965; and

4 WHEREAS, Throughout her life, Rose was known for her
5 devotion to her family, her garden, and her church; as a
6 long-time member of the First Church of Lombard, United Church
7 of Christ, Rose volunteered in many church programs; she worked
8 a monthly night shift at PADS, an overnight shelter for
9 homeless people, up to the time of her death; and

10 WHEREAS, Rose Tani is survived by her four children,
11 Richard (Ann), Steven (Tricia), Christine, and Daniel (Jane);
12 her third son, John, died in 1992; she is survived by her
13 twelve grandchildren, her two great-grandchildren, and one
14 sister, Nobuko Kawagoye (Mits); therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL
16 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
17 her family and friends, the passing of Rose Sawako Tani; and be
18 it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to the family of Rose Sawako Tani as a symbol of our
21 sincere condolences.